

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CHARLESTON DIVISION**

Glynndeavin von Fox,

Plaintiff,

v.

The Sovereign Country of Japan.

Defendants.

2016 MAR -7 P 12:33
Civil Action No. 2:16-225-RMG

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the Report and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge (Dkt. No. 6), recommending denial of Plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismissal of this case. For the reasons given below, the Court adopts the Report and Recommendation as the Order of this Court and dismisses this action without prejudice.

I. Background

This is one of seventeen actions filed in the period from January 11, 2016 to February 9, 2016 by Glynndeavin von Fox against various universities, government entities, law firms, hotels, and against a foreign country. In each action, Mr. von Fox has moved for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. On February 12, 2016, this Court denied Mr. von Fox's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and directed the Clerk not to accept any new complaint filings without proper payment of required fees. Order, *Von Fox v. S.C. Judicial Dep't*, Civ. No. 2:16-209 (D.S.C. Feb. 12, 2016). The present action was initiated on January 25, 2016. The Magistrate Judge filed a Report and Recommendation on February 16, 2016, and Mr. von Fox filed objections to the Report and Recommendation on February 26, 2016.

II. Legal Standard

The Magistrate Judge makes only a recommendation to this Court. The recommendation has no presumptive weight, and the responsibility to make a final determination remains with the Court. *Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261 (1976). The Court is charged with making a *de novo* determination of those portions of the Report and Recommendation to which specific objection is made. The Court may accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the recommendation of the Magistrate Judge. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

When a proper objection is made to a particular issue, “a district court is required to consider all arguments directed to that issue, regardless of whether they were raised before the magistrate.” *United States v. George*, 971 F.2d 1113, 1118 (4th Cir. 1992). However, “[t]he district court's decision whether to consider additional evidence is committed to its discretion, and any refusal will be reviewed for abuse.” *Doe v. Chao*, 306 F.3d 170, 183 & n.9 (4th Cir. 2002). “[A]ttempts to introduce new evidence after the magistrate judge has acted are disfavored,” though the district court may allow it “when a party offers sufficient reasons for so doing.” *Caldwell v. Jackson*, 831 F. Supp. 2d 911, 914 (M.D.N.C. 2010) (listing cases).

III. Discussion

Plaintiff asserts in his motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* that he has a monthly income of \$1,200 per month, no regular monthly expenses whatsoever, and assets valued at \$140,000. The Court agrees with the Magistrate Judge’s finding that Plaintiff’s motion manifestly shows an ability to pay the filing fee in this case. As the Court stated in dismissing another of Mr. von Fox’s many recent actions, leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is not granted for the purpose of enabling persons to file as many lawsuits as they please by removing the economic cost of initiating a lawsuit. Order, *Von Fox*, Civ. No. 2:16-209. The Court therefore denies the motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismisses the Complaint without prejudice. See 28

U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(A) (“[T]he court shall dismiss the case at any time if the court determines that . . . the allegation of poverty is untrue . . .”).

Dismissal is also required when the Court determines that an action is “frivolous,” that it “fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted,” or that it “seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B). “[A] complaint . . . is frivolous where it lacks an arguable basis either in law or in fact.” *Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989). Such complaints are dismissed without prejudice. *Nagy v. FMC Butner*, 376 F.3d 252, 258 (4th Cir. 2004) (“We do not think, however, that Congress intended a dismissal under § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i) of the in forma pauperis statute to operate as a dismissal with prejudice.”).

The Magistrate Judge found, as independent and sufficient grounds for dismissal, that the Complaint is frivolous and that it fails to state a claim for which relief may be granted. “The Complaint’s allegations are largely incoherent and can be described as the ‘the ramblings of a troubled mind’ . . . ‘having difficulty grappling with reality.’” (R. & R. 6 (quoting *Arledge v. Hall*, 2006 WL 1518915, *1 (S.D. Ga. May 31, 2006)). The Court agrees. The Complaint fails to allege facts supporting any sort of claim. For example, Plaintiff complains of Japan’s alleged “recognition of the State of South Carolina as an International State in the world.” In the section of the *pro se* complaint form entitled, “What I Would Like the Court to Do,” Plaintiff asks this Court to prosecute his case on his behalf before the International Court of Justice. Plaintiff fails to allege any predicate facts for subject-matter jurisdiction over a foreign sovereign, as required under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976. Plaintiff’s objections are likewise incoherent ramblings.

Therefore, the Court **ADOPTS** the Report and Recommendation as the Order of this Court, Plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is **DENIED**, and the Complaint is **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Gergel', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Mark Gergel
United States District Court Judge

March 7, 2016
Charleston, South Carolina